



Philanthropic Response to Immigrants and Refugees: 1990–2015

For the past 25 years, GCIR, our members, and funding partners have mounted a wide range of efforts to address the needs, uplift the contributions, and help immigrants and refugees reach their full potential.

GCIR FOUNDED TO INFORM AND CATALYZE PHILANTHROPY
Mary McClymont, then at the Ford Foundation, organizes GCIR to increase philanthropic support of immigrant and refugee issues locally and nationally. Ford Foundation, J. Roderick MacArthur Foundation, Joyce Mertz Gilmore Foundation, The New York Community Trust, and Rosenberg Foundation are founding members.

FUNDER EDUCATION BEGINS
GCIR holds first conference and influences the Council on Foundations to include immigrant-related sessions at its annual conference.

MEMBERS STEP UP PROGRAMMING
GCIR members organize a funder briefing on the Haitian refugee crisis, produce first newsletter on immigrant-specific grantmaking, and publish first report, "Newcomers in America," informing philanthropy about rapidly changing demographics.

GCIR PARTNERS ON PROP. 187 REPORT AND EXPANDS PROGRAMMING
GCIR, Hispanics in Philanthropy, and Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy co-publish "Reweaving Our Social Fabric: Challenges to Grantmaking after Proposition 187." Programming expands to address immigration backlash, legal needs, and issues facing immigrant and refugee women and girls.

LOCAL FUNDERS RESPOND TO WELFARE REFORM
Spurred by Emma Lazarus Fund matching grants, local funders coordinate funding to address welfare reform's impact on immigrants and refugees in New York, Chicago, Northern California, Boston, and other locations.

GCIR RAMPS UP
GCIR hires first staff person, surveys members, launches website, organizes a national civic participation conference with the Funders' Committee for Civic Participation, and highlights asylum issues.

GCIR PROGRAMMING BALANCES CRISIS AND LONGSTANDING CONCERNS
Post 9/11 ramifications dominate GCIR programming and member grantmaking, but focus on immigrant and refugee families and low-wage workers continues.

FARMWORKERS GAIN ATTENTION
The California Endowment launches \$50 million Agricultural Worker Initiative. Craig McGarvey, while at The James Irvine Foundation, wins the Robert W. Scrivner Award for the Central Valley Partnership.

ROSENBERG FOUNDATION HONORED; FOUR FREEDOMS FUND ESTABLISHED
Rosenberg Foundation wins Paul Ylvisaker Award for Public Policy in recognition of its longtime support of farmworker issues.
The Four Freedoms Fund is founded and would make nearly \$95 million in grants to immigrant organizations across the country between 2003 and 2015.

MAYTREE FOUNDATION HONORED; AMERICAN DREAM FUND LAUNCHED
The Maytree Foundation wins the Paul Ylvisaker Award for Public Policy for its work to promote immigrant economic integration in Canada.
The American Dream Fund, launched by the Knight Foundation to promote naturalization, would grant more than \$4.7 million in 19 communities.

GCIR RESPONDS TO HURRICANE KATRINA'S IMPACT AND FOCUS ON INTEGRATION
In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, GCIR calls funders' attention to impact on immigrants and refugees. Programs cover immigrant rights, integration, and capacity-building issues; a transatlantic exchange engages funders from seven countries.

DELIVERING ON THE DREAM (DOTD) FORMED
DOTD forms to support DACA implementation. By early 2016, the network would grow to 15 funding collaboratives in 12 states. More than 100 local, statewide, and national funders, a third of whom are new to immigration, would commit nearly \$20 million to build local capacity for community outreach and education, eligibility screening, legal services, and other assistance.
These resources would allow 140 grantee organizations to train close to 8,400 legal and lay volunteers, reach more than 265,000 immigrants, and complete nearly 30,000 applications.

EMMA LAZARUS II ESTABLISHED
The Open Society Foundations launches the Emma Lazarus II Fund to help eligible immigrants apply for DACA, DACA+, and DAPA, and to building long-term immigration legal services infrastructure. By early 2016, this two-year initiative would deploy \$9 million and leverage approximately \$23 million from state and local funders, including the DOTD funding collaboratives, to support service delivery and build capacity in 16 states.

1990

1991

1992

1994
JOYCE FOUNDATION LAUNCHES CITIZENSHIP FUNDING INITIATIVE
The Joyce Foundation, based in Chicago, undertakes a special project to promote naturalization for eligible immigrants.

1995
IRVINE FOUNDATION LAUNCHES CENTRAL VALLEY PARTNERSHIP
The James Irvine Foundation would invest more than \$19 million over ten years to promote naturalization and civic engagement among immigrants and refugees in California's Central Valley.

1996
EMMA LAZARUS FUND CREATED
George Soros creates the Emma Lazarus Fund at the Open Society Institute, committing \$50 million to address the disproportionate impact of welfare reform on immigrants and refugees.

1997
MINNESOTA NICE OR NOT CAMPAIGN
Spearheaded by The Minneapolis Foundation, this communications campaign directly tackles Minnesota's less-than-warm reception of immigrants and refugees, generating lively debate on immigration across the state.

1999
GCIR BROADENS REACH
GCIR programs bring funders to Los Angeles, Miami, and the Arizona border to examine immigration policy challenges, as well as model programs that promote the rights of low-wage workers and the integration of low-income children, youth, and families.

2000
IMMIGRATION GAINS RELEVANCE IN NEW GATEWAYS
The Colorado Trust launches the Supporting Refugees and Immigrant Families Initiative that would grant a total of \$11 million over seven years.

2001
IMMIGRANTS' CONTRIBUTIONS BECOME FOCUS
GCIR's new strategic plan responds to the volatile policy environment and focuses philanthropy on maximizing the contributions of diverse immigrant communities.

2002
PHILANTHROPY CONSIDERS COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIES
GCIR convenes a communications strategy meeting to discuss ongoing concerns over the connections between immigration and terrorism. Programs look at African refugees; Arabs, Muslims, and South Asians; farmworkers; and immigrants in new gateway states.

2003
INCREASED FOCUS ON CIVIC PARTICIPATION
GCIR publishes "Pursuing Democracy's Promise" and organizes programs on civic and electoral participation, youth organizing, worker centers, and education.

2004
IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION TOOLKIT RELEASED
"The Immigrant Integration Toolkit," which debuts at GCIR's national convening in Denver, would become highly influential, shaping and elevating immigrant integration grantmaking in the years to come. The toolkit remains the most downloaded GCIR publication a decade after its publication.

2005
IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION BECOMES DRIVING FORCE
GCIR programming in Minnesota, Georgia, Arizona, New Hampshire, and Washington focuses on integration. California GCIR members form the California Immigrant Integration Initiative to share information and coordinate funding strategies across the state. The Chicago Community Trust launches a three-year \$1.5 million Immigration Integration Initiative.

2006
IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION MOMENTUM CONTINUES
The Silicon Valley Community Foundation awards nearly \$2.4 million through its new immigrant integration initiatives and would continue innovative funding in the field in the years to come.

2007
FOUR FREEDOMS FUND RECOGNIZED
Taryn Higashi of Unbound Philanthropy and Geri Mannion of the Carnegie Corporation of New York receive the Robert W. Scrivner Award for founding the Four Freedoms Fund. With the prize money, they establish the Freedom from Fear Awards.

2008
CALIFORNIA COUNTS!
GCIR members invest more than \$10 million to support 2010 Census outreach in California. GCIR coordinates philanthropic support of this statewide census campaign and releases a companion evaluation report and funders' guide.

2009
NEW AMERICANS CAMPAIGN (NAC) LAUNCHED
The Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Coulter Foundation, the Grove Foundation, the Evelyn & Walter Haas, Jr. Fund, the JBP Foundation, and Knight Foundation—in partnership with 20+ local foundations—invest over \$25 million to support naturalization in 18 sites. In its first five years, NAC would help 193,000 immigrants naturalize and would save low-income immigrants \$172 million in legal services and application fees.

2010
PHILANTHROPY MOUNTS RAPID RESPONSE TO AID CENTRAL AMERICAN CHILDREN
The California Endowment makes a lead grant and partners with Univision on the "Estamos con los Niños" campaign to raise awareness and funding for this humanitarian crisis.
With information, technical assistance, and coordination from GCIR, funders across the country make nearly \$6 million in emergency grants to provide legal, social, health, and mental health services to unaccompanied children seeking refuge in the U.S.

2011
PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT OF IMMIGRATION REMAINS STRONG
Funders discuss strategies for addressing rising xenophobia, Islamophobia, and the growing global refugee crisis. Planning focuses on possible DACA+ and DAPA implementation and how to sustain legal and other services to immigrants and refugees in the long term. GCIR's new strategic plan seeks to advance immigrant rights, economic justice and integration, and civic integration—as well as address unanticipated issues that may emerge.

2012

2014

2015

TODAY

Immigrant and Refugee Policy Developments: 1990–2015

Throughout GCIR's 25-year history, immigrants and refugees in the U.S. and across the globe have faced a volatile policy environment that has alternatively been welcoming and hostile, reflecting conflicting visions of who we are and want to be as a society.



GRANTMAKERS CONCERNED WITH IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

ACTIVISTS PROTEST ANTI-IMMIGRANT POLICIES

Grassroots activists organize rallies and marches to protest a record 400,000 deportations and passage of Arizona's SB1070, which spurs two dozen similar bills across the country that aim to expand local law enforcement of federal immigration laws.

DEPORTATION HITS 2.3 MILLION; ACA PASSES

Deportations from 2008 through 2014 reach a record 2.3 million. The Affordable Care Act passes, resulting in health coverage for millions but leaving unauthorized immigrants ineligible. Many states propose new legislation to extend health care to unauthorized children.

EXPANDED IMMIGRATION RELIEF ANNOUNCED

The Administration announces expansion of DACA and a new program, Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA).

THE LIVES OF IMMIGRANTS HANG IN THE BALANCE

The Supreme Court decision on *U.S. v. Texas* (the legal challenge to DAPA and DACA+) and the 2016 presidential and congressional election results will have a profound impact on the lives of immigrants and refugees.

1990

CONGRESS PASSES IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1990

Building on IRCA passed in 1986, this law increases the overall number of immigrants authorized to enter the U.S., creates a more efficient naturalization process, and expands resources for border enforcement.

1991

THE HAITIAN REFUGEE CRISIS EMERGES

A military coup forces 200,000 Haitians to flee their country. The U.S. Coast Guard intercepts thousands, and the U.S. Naval Base in Guantanamo Bay is used to screen Haitian asylum seekers.

1994

CALIFORNIA VOTERS APPROVE PROP. 187

Driven by anti-immigrant sentiment, this ballot initiative prohibits unauthorized immigrants from accessing publicly funded services and mandates all local law enforcement agencies to report them to federal immigration authorities.

1996

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS CONTINUE TO ERODE

Federal welfare, immigration, and anti-terrorism laws fray the social safety net for immigrants and refugees; toughen immigration enforcement by enlisting cooperation of local police forces; and further expand employment verification procedures.

1997

IMMIGRANTS' ADVOCACY FORCES POLICY CHANGE

Congress restores Food Stamps and Supplemental Security Income to certain children, elderly, and disabled immigrants. It also enacts laws protecting immigrant victims of trafficking, violence, and crimes. Many states create substitute health and welfare benefits for immigrants, but the fight to maintain these programs continues today.

2001

MOMENTUM FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM GAINED...AND LOST

The DREAM Act is first introduced; terms of what would become AgJOBS are agreed on; and President Bush and Mexico's President Fox hold historic talks, reaching an informal agreement on immigration policy. But the 9/11 attacks not only halt all reform efforts, but also result in the passage of the USA PATRIOT Act, which greatly expands the government's anti-terrorism and surveillance powers and further erodes civil rights and civil liberties for all, especially Arab and Muslim communities.

2002

9/11 ATTACKS SPUR RESTRICTIVE LAWS

Congress passes Homeland Security Act, creating Department of Homeland Security. Immigrant males 16 and older from mostly Muslim countries are subject to special fingerprinting. Florida signs first local law enforcement agreement to cooperate with federal immigration authorities in detaining immigrants. The Social Security Administration expands its verification program to identify unauthorized workers.

2005

STATE ANTI-IMMIGRANT LEGISLATION SURGES

In the wake of new federal rules on state ID cards and driver's licenses, Arizona passes Prop. 200, instituting restrictive voter ID laws and blocking unauthorized immigrants' access to public benefits. Illinois becomes first state to adopt immigrant integration policy, against the tide of 150 anti-immigrant bills introduced in 30 states.

2007

RESISTANCE, REFORM, AND ENFORCEMENT

Historic marches of millions of immigrants and their allies across the U.S. renew hope for federal immigration reform, but Congress retreats fearing political backlash. ICE steps up raids and other enforcement, detaining 20,000 per day and deporting 185,000 that year.

2008

IMMIGRATION REFORM STALLS AGAIN; STATES STEP IN

Another major push for federal immigration reform fails, and state legislatures step in to consider a record 1,562 immigrant-related bills. The 240 laws and 50 resolutions that pass restrict access to everything from public benefits to higher education, and codify law enforcement collaboration with federal immigration authorities, among other restrictions.

2009

HEIGHTENED ENFORCEMENT AS FIGHT FOR REFORM CONTINUES

Immigration authorities begin conducting community raids and individual enforcement seeking those with civil immigration violations. Generating widespread fear, Secure Communities enables local law enforcement and federal immigration authorities to share databases, allowing local officials to identify the immigration status of all foreign-born in their custody. Senator Edward Kennedy, a longtime champion of immigration, passes away, and the fight for immigrant reform continues.

2011

DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) IS ANNOUNCED

After the DREAM Act fails in Congress, President Obama announces DACA, which grants two-year, renewable work permits and protection from deportation to eligible unauthorized immigrants. More than 713,000 immigrants would secure DACA status by late 2015, improving their earning potential and bringing them into the economic mainstream.

2012

CENTRAL AMERICANS SEEK REFUGE IN THE U.S.

Record numbers of unaccompanied children and families fleeing violence and persecution in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala seek refuge in the U.S. The Administration reopens family detention centers, fast tracks processing of asylum cases, and supports Mexican government interdiction efforts.

2014

2015

U.S. DEEPLY DIVIDED ON IMMIGRATION

Texas and 26 other states sue to prevent implementation of DAPA and DACA+. Twenty states or state university systems have laws or policies that allow eligible unauthorized immigrants to pay in-state tuition. A California judge finds family detention centers housing Central American asylum seekers violate the rights of children and orders their release into community-based settings. Amid concerns over terrorism and rising xenophobia and Islamophobia, presidential debates and public discourse on immigration turn vitriolic.

TODAY